

# Intermediate Astrology - Essential Dignities

## Table of Essential Dignities

PLANET	HOME RULE	DETRIMENT	EXALTATION	DEGREE EXALTATION	FALL	DEGREE FALL	HARMONY	INHARMONY
☉	♏	♊	♈	19	♎	19	♂	♈
☽	♉	♋	♌	3	♍	3	♃	♎
♀	♈-♎	♂-♃	♊	15	♏	15	♍	♌
♁	♌-♎	♈-♍	♃	27	♎	27	♊	♏
♂	♈-♍	♌-♎	♋	28	♉	28	♏	♊
♃	♂-♃	♈-♎	♉	15	♋	15	♌	♍
♅	♋-♊	♉-♏	♎	21	♈	21	♎	♃
♁	♊	♏	♈	7	♂	7	♎	♈
♃	♃	♎	♂	18	♈	18	♉	♋
♄	♍	♌	♏	17	♊	17	♈	♎

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The zodiacal signs act as sounding boards, or instruments, from which the planetary vibrations reach the earth. Each is a definite section of the astromagnetic field of force which surrounds the sun. Due to this definite position in a field of force, the tension of the astral substance through which the vibrations of a planet must travel is different in each sign, and varies to a less extent even in the different decanates of the same sign. This property of the astral substance of a sign may make it a harmonious sounding board for transmitting the vibrations of some of the planets, but a discordant sounding board for transmitting the vibrations of other planets.

Furthermore, when one planet is in the home sign or exaltation sign of the other planet at the same time the other planet is in the home sign or exaltation sign of this planet, the resonance thus created tends to be the most harmonious of any due to the sign Positions of planets. Such sign relationship between planets is called MUTUAL RECEPTION. Observation indicates that the departments of life ruled by houses occupied by planets thus in mutual reception tend markedly to assist each other. Planets do not need to be in aspect with each other to be in MUTUAL RECEPTION.

The power, harmony or discord of any birth-chart or progressed planet, aspect, sign or house can be precisely calculated. Explanation of how to make These calculations is given in Course XVI, Stellar Healing But here only certain comparisons will be made. Power is measured in astrodynes, harmony in harmodynes, and discord is discordynes. Planets in MUTUAL RECEPTION gain  $\frac{1}{2}$  the harmony given neutral planets when in an angle and making he perfect trine.

It has experimentally been determined that a planet not only sets up vibrations in the sign it occupies, but also in certain other signs. These special signs are so sympathetically tuned to the planet that they vibrate to it no matter where it is located. They are keyed to the tone of the planet, and respond to its vibrations, much as a musical instrument keyed to a particular tone will respond to that tone when struck on another instrument, even when the other instrument is at a distance.

These signs that persistently transmit the vibrations of a given planet, whether or not the planet is in them, are said to be Ruled by that planet. When the planet is in one of these signs it Rules, it is said to be at HOME.

The sign that a planet rules transmits easily the constructive characteristics of the planet when the planet is in it. A planet at HOME thus gains the harmony given neutral planets when in a succedent house and making the perfect semi-sextile. When a planet is in the sign opposite its home, which is called its DETRIMENT, it thus gains  $\frac{1}{7}$  the discord given neutral planets when in a succedent house and making the perfect semi-square.

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The vibratory quality of the signs ruled by a planet is markedly influenced by any modification in the vibration of the planet. If it sounds from some other sign that does not permit harmonious expression, this discord is also called out in the signs ruled by the planet. That is, the signs ruled by a planet respond to the vibrations that actually reach them and these vibrations are given a harmonious or a discordant trend, not merely by the aspects of the planet, but also by the sign in which the planet is located.

When a planet is not in the sign, but rules the sign, and the sign is on the cusp of a house, the sign through resonance gains  $\frac{1}{2}$  the planet's power, harmony or discord. If the sign is not on the cusp of a house, but is an intercepted sign, it gains through resonance  $\frac{1}{4}$  the planet's power, harmony or discord.

The most refined influence exerted by a planet however, is not when it is at home, but when in another sign which not only permits it to express its energy fully, but which due to the peculiar quality of its astral substance, lends itself particularly to the expression of the finer and more intense vibrations of the planetary tone. This other sign, which only transmits the planet's vibrations strongly when the planet is in it, yet which lends itself singularly to the highest expression of the planet's qualities, is called the planet's EXALTATION. A planet in its exaltation thus gains  $\frac{1}{2}$  the harmony given neutral planets when in a succedent house and making the perfect sextile. When a planet is in the sign opposite its exaltation, which is called its FALL, it thus gains the discord given a neutral planet in a cadent house and making the perfect semi-square.

The ancients held that there is also a particular degree in the Sign of Exaltation in which the planet exerts a better influence than in any other degree of the zodiac. Modern observation tends to confirm this. When a planet is in this particular degree which is called its DEGREE OF EXALTATION, it gains  $\frac{1}{2}$  the harmony given neutral planets when in a succedent house and making the perfect trine. When a planet is in the degree opposite its degree of exaltation, which is called its DEGREE OF FALL, it thus gains the discord given neutral planets when in a succedent house and making the perfect semi-square.

There is also another sign in which a planet gains a little harmony, but only half as much as when at home. This sign is called its HARMONY. A planet in the sign of its harmony thus gains  $\frac{1}{2}$  the harmony given neutral planets when in a succedent house and making the perfect semi-sextile. When a planet is in the sign opposite its harmony, which is called its INHARMONY, it thus gains  $\frac{1}{4}$  the discord given neutral planets when in succedent houses and making the perfect semi-square.

By his general knowledge of the nature of each planet and each sign, the student becomes able approximately to determine the harmony or discord of a planet in any sign; for as a rule a planet is harmonious in a sign the nature of which is similar to its own, and discordant in a sign having dissimilar characteristics. But as this has been experimentally ascertained by others, it is well to memorize the signs in which each planet has its Home, Exaltation, Harmony, and also its Degree of Exaltation. From these the Detriment, Fall,

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Inharmony, and Degree of Fall can be ascertained by using the opposite factor in the zodiac. This harmony or discord of a planet due to being able to express its own true nature by occupying a sign or degree which forms a favorable or unfavorable sounding board for transmitting its vibrations is called the planet's ESSENTIAL DIGNITY. The table on page 34 gives the Essential Dignities of the planets, and should be well memorized.

From *Horary Astrology* by C. C. Zain

